

coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR § 206.250.

Notice of Availability

Bidding instructions for the offered tracts are included in the Detailed Statement of Coal Lease Sale. Copies of the proposed coal lease sale and detailed statement are available upon request in person or by mail from the New Mexico State Office, P.O. Box 27115, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115, or the Tulsa District Office at the address shown above. The case files are available for inspection during normal business hours *only* at the Santa Fe BLM Office at the address indicated.

Dated: December 18, 1996.

Richard A. Whitley,
Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-32745 Filed 12-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-01-M

[CA-060-7122-00-D063; CACA 35800]

California Desert District; Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS); U.S. Army's Land Acquisition Project for the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California; Proposed Withdrawal of Public Lands and Proposed Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Department of the Interior has prepared, by third party contractors to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) analyzing the impacts to the human environment of the U.S. Army's proposed expansion of the National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin. The NTC is located approximately 35 miles northeast of Barstow in north-central San Bernardino County, California. The proposed action is (1) the withdrawal and transfer of jurisdiction to the U.S. Army of approximately 310,296 acres of public lands managed by the BLM, and (2) an amendment of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan. This DEIS analyzes environmental impacts of the proposed action, five alternatives and the no action alternative, and identifies mitigation measures. This DEIS was prepared to comply with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40

CFR Parts 1500-1508) for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 43 U.S.C. 1701.

DATES: A ninety (90) day public review and comment period on the DEIS and proposed plan amendment begins on January 3, 1997. Written comments relating to the DEIS will be accepted until April 4, 1997. Written or oral comments may also be presented at the five public meetings to be held in February 1997 at the following locations and times:

San Bernardino, February 6, 1997, 7:00 p.m.—County Government Center, County Supervisors Hearing Room, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92415

Victorville, February 13, 1997, 7:00 p.m.—Victorville City Hall, City Council Chambers, 14343 Civic Drive, Victorville, CA 92392

Barstow, February 18, 1997, 7:00 p.m.—Barstow City Hall, City Council Chambers, 220 East Mountain View Avenue, Barstow, CA 92311

Baker, February 20, 1997, 2:00 p.m.—Baker Community Center, Baker Blvd., Baker, CA 92309

Sacramento, February 24, 1997, 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.—Sacramento City Hall, City Council Chambers, 915 "I" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

The public meetings will be conducted in two parts. At each location, a one-half hour "open house" will precede the formal public hearing. During the open house, information about the proposed action and the environmental review process will be provided by the Army and BLM representatives. Comments on the DEIS will be recorded only during the public hearing part.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to the BLM, Barstow Resource Area Office, Attention: Mike DeKeyrel, Project Manager, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311. Written comments relating to the DEIS will be accepted if postmarked no later than April 4, 1997.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Army proposed action was developed from an Army Land Use Requirements Study (LURS) completed in 1985 and updated in 1993, which determined that an additional 222,000 net maneuverable acres are needed for the National Training Center's combat training mission.

The BLM has not selected a lead Federal agency preferred alternative in this DEIS. After public review and consideration of the comments to the DEIS, the BLM will select a preferred alternative in the Final EIS.

Under the Engle Act of February 28, 1958, 43 U.S.C. 155-158, military withdrawals of over 5,000 acres are

subject to Congressional review. This DEIS and the public review will enable the BLM and the Army to develop recommendations on the proposed action through completion of a Final EIS and Records(s) of Decision. The recommendations will be reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior in coordination with the Department of Defense.

Copies of an executive summary of the DEIS, and the entire DEIS document including technical appendices, are available for review at the BLM Barstow Resource Area Office at the above address; at the BLM California Desert District Office, 6221 Box Springs Blvd., Riverside, CA 92507; and at the BLM California State Office, 2135 Butano Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike DeKeyrel, Project Manager at the above Barstow Resource Area address and at (619) 255-8730.

Dated December 20, 1996.

Molly S. Brady,

Assistant District Manager, Planning and Renewable Resources.

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[OR-056-1220-00;GP7-0044]

Motor Vehicle Closure; Prineville District

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, Prineville District.

ACTION: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately, the following legally described area below, including all roads and trails, is closed to motor vehicle use year-round.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: This closure order applies to the entire area, and all roads and trails within the area, located on Public Lands in Township 16 South, Range 13 East, Sections 25, 35, 36; Township 16 South, Range 14 East, Section 19, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34; Township 17 South, Range 13 East, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27; and Township 17 South, Range 14 East, Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 30 W.M. Southeast of the Powell Butte Highway; East of the subdivisions known as Cimmarron City, Terry Drive, and Sunset Acres; North of Alfalfa Market Road; West of the subdivision known as Cascade View Estates; West of Johnson Market Road; and Southwest of the B.P.A. Powerline Right of Way #ORE 010362. Exemptions to this closure are: Portions of BLM Roads 6589-A and 6589 where 6589-A